

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical disc drive apparatus, comprising a laser device for generating a light beam for optically reading data from a disc, said laser device being incorporated in an LC oscillator circuit, with a parasitic capacitance of said laser resonating with an inductor to form a resonant LC circuit of said LC oscillator circuit, so that electrical energy can be exchanged in a resonant manner between the inductor and the parasitic capacitance back and forth, wherein an inverter is coupled in parallel to the inductor.

2. (Previously Presented) The optical disc drive apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said LC oscillator circuit comprises a current path in which said laser device and an inductance are

coupled in a series arrangement.

3. (Previously Presented) The optical disc drive apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said LC oscillator circuit comprises at least one capacitance coupled in series with said laser device and said inductance.

4. (Currently Amended) A laser driver circuit for driving a semiconductor laser, having a first output terminal and a second output terminal for connection to an anode terminal and a cathode terminal, respectively, of a laser to be driven;

the laser driver circuit comprising an inductance having at least one terminal coupled to at least one of said output terminals, and a parasitic capacitance of said laser resonating with said inductance to form a resonant LC circuit of an LC oscillator circuit, so that electrical energy can be exchanged in a resonant manner between ~~the inductor~~ said inductance and the parasitic capacitance back and forth, wherein an inverter is coupled in parallel to said inductance.

5. (Previously Presented) The laser driver circuit according to claim 4, further comprising at least one capacitance coupled between said inductance and said first or second output terminal, respectively.

6. (Previously Presented) The laser driver circuit according to claim 4, wherein said inductance has one terminal coupled to said first output terminal and has another terminal coupled to said second output terminal.

7. (Previously Presented) The laser driver circuit according to claim 4, further comprising a diode coupled between one of said output terminals and a voltage reference.

8. (Previously Presented) The laser driver circuit according to claim 7, wherein said diode comprises a controllable switch controlled by a signal derived from a voltage occurring at a location in a current path defined by said inductance and said output terminals, said location corresponding to one terminal or a tap of said inductance.

Claim 9 (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The laser driver circuit according to claim 4, comprising an output stage implemented as an oscillator, for instance a Pierce oscillator, a Colpitts oscillator, a Hartley oscillator, coupled to at least one of said output terminals.

11. (Previously Presented) A light beam generating device, comprising a semiconductor laser driven by a laser driver circuit according to claim 4.

12. (Previously Presented) An optical disc drive apparatus, comprising a laser driver circuit according to claim 4.

13. (Previously Presented) The optical disc drive apparatus of claim 1, wherein the inductor and capacitor are connected in parallel.

14. (Currently Amended) The laser driver circuit of claim 4, wherein ~~the inductor~~ said inductance and said parasitic capacitor are connected in parallel.

15. (Currently Amended) The laser driver circuit of claim 4, further comprising:

a first capacitor connected between a first terminal of ~~the inductor~~ said inductance and the anode terminal; and

a second capacitor connected between a second terminal of the inductor and the cathode terminal.

16. (Previously Presented) The laser driver circuit of claim 15, further comprising a switch connected between the anode terminal and a reference voltage source.

17. (Previously Presented) The laser driver circuit of claim 16, wherein the switch is a bootstrap diode.

18. (Previously Presented) The laser driver circuit of claim 16, wherein the switch is a transistor.